

The Lord's Day

June 28, 2026 at 10:30 AM

We welcome you to worship today. It is a privilege to have you as our guest.

As you join us today, begin to worship quietly with personal prayer.

Please turn off your cell phone and turn your hearts and minds toward God.

We prepare for worship

Take a moment and meditate on this as you prepare for worship...

Always about His Father's business—always doing good—doing it in the sight of enemies as well as of friends—such was the daily tenor of our Lord's earthly ministry. And He "left us an example that we should follow His steps" (1 Pe. 2:21). Blessed indeed are those Christians who strive, however feebly, to imitate their Master! J.C. Ryle

Prelude

Meditation (From: Thais)

Jules Massenet

Dr. Kenneth Dean, Jr.; Director of Music Ministries

Please quietly prepare your hearts for worship during the Prelude.

Aisquith Life and Opportunities

Rev. John Ceselsky

We praise our great God

Call to Worship

Psalm 100

¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

² Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the Lord, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

⁵ For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever,

and his faithfulness to all generations.

Invocation

Hymn No. 168

I Greet thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art

Toulon

I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,

my only trust and Savior of my heart,

Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;

I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
O comfort us in death's approaching hour,
strong-hearted then to face it by thy pow'r.

Thou has the true and perfect gentleness,
no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:
make us to taste the sweet grace found in thee
and ever stay in thy sweet unity.

Our hope is in no other save in thee;
Our faith is built upon thy promise free;
O grant to us such stronger hope and sure
That we can boldly conquer and endure.

We embrace Christ through His Word

Psalter Reading (Responsive)

Psalm 57

- ¹ Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful to me, for in you my soul takes refuge;
in the shadow of your wings I will take refuge, till the storms of destruction pass by.
- ² I cry out to God Most High, to God who fulfills his purpose for me.
- ³ **He will send from heaven and save me; he will put to shame him who tramples on me.**
God will send out his steadfast love and his faithfulness!
- ⁴ **My soul is in the midst of lions; I lie down amid fiery beasts—**
the children of man, whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords.
- ⁵ **Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!**
- ⁶ They set a net for my steps; my soul was bowed down.
They dug a pit in my way, but they have fallen into it themselves.
- ⁷ My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast!
I will sing and make melody!
- ⁸ Awake, my glory! Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn!
- ⁹ **I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.**
- ¹⁰ For your steadfast love is great to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.
- ¹¹ **Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!**

Confession of Sin (Unison)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we confess ourselves unworthy of your unspeakable grace to us in your Son Jesus Christ. We have not loved you as we ought, nor have we always been loving to one another, kindhearted, forgiving one another, even as you, for Christ's sake, have forgiven us. We have lived in selfishness and worldly pride, and the good gifts you have given us, we have not used to relieve the burdens of others. Pardon and

blot out our offenses, we beseech you, through the incarnate life and willing sacrifice of your holy Son, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Responsive)

Ephesians 4:17-24

¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.

¹⁸ **They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.**

¹⁹ They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity.

²⁰ **But that is not the way you learned Christ!—**

²¹ assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,

²² **to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,**

²³ and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,

²⁴ **and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.**

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question 86

Since then we are delivered from our misery, merely of grace, through Christ, without any merit of ours, why must we still do good works?

Because Christ, having redeemed and delivered us by His blood, also renews us by His Holy Spirit after His own image; that so we may testify, but the whole of our conduct, our gratitude to God for His blessings, and that He may be praised by us; also, that every one may be assured in himself of his faith by the fruits thereof; and that by our godly conversation others may be gained to Christ.

Hymn No. 9 (HMR)

Alive in Christ

Sola Gratia

I once was rebellious, corrupted by sin, pursuing the devil's dark path,
Oblivious, dead to the state I was in, an object of God's dreadful wrath.

But God who is rich in compassion and love, not leaving my soul to the grave,
Has given me life; born again from above, by God's sovereign grace I've been saved.

God lifted me up to the heavenly realms where seated with Christ I am free;
In ages to come he will show me more grace—so great is his kindness to me.

Since grace is the source of the life that is mine—and faith is a gift from on high—
I'll boast in my Savior, all merit decline, and glorify God 'til I die.

Yet now I am living with work to be done for I am God's workmanship too,
Created in Christ with a race to be run, which God has ordained me to do.

We respond in gratitude for God's blessing

The Prayers of God's People and the Lord's Prayer (**in unison**)

The Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

Laudes Domini

Don Edwards

The Doxology (Hymnal, pg. 731) and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We are nourished by God's Word

Scripture Reading

Mark 3:1-6

Pew Bible pg. 838

¹ Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. ² And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³ And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." ⁴ And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵ And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶ The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Sermon

"Opposition to His Mercy"

Pastor Bell

Sermon Outline can be found on the back page of the bulletin.

We respond to God's Grace

Hymn No. 607

Thy Kindness, Lord, Is Good and Free

Ellers

Thy loving-kindness, Lord, is good and free:
In tender mercy turn thou unto me;
Hide not thy face from me in my distress;
In mercy hear my pray'r, thy servant bless.

Needy and sorrowful, to thee I cry;
Let thy salvation set my soul on high:
Then I will sing and praise thy holy name;
My thankful song thy mercy shall proclaim.

With joy the meek shall see my soul restored;
Your heart shall live, ye saints that seek the Lord;
He helps the needy and regards their cries;
Those in distress the Lord will not despise.

Let heav'n above his grace and glory tell;
Let earth and sea and all that in them dwell:
Salvation to his people God will give,
And they that love his name with him shall live.

Benediction and Three-Fold Amen (Hymnal, pg. 740)

Danish

Postlude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

(Tune: Austria) F.J. Haydn

Please be seated and quietly reflect upon the Lord's grace during the Postlude.

Announcements

We Welcome our Pastor Emeritus, Robert Bell, as he brings God's Word to us this morning.

Donations for the Roof repair can be made through the ARC Fund. Please use a pink envelope and label it "ARC" or "Roof."

Birthdays and Anniversaries this week: Tomorrow (June 29) is Lorna Lee's Birthday, and Thursday (July 2) is Aaron Bell's Birthday and George & Ruth Ellen Beerli's Anniversary.

Prayer Requests

1. Please continue to be in prayer for Debbie DeFord as she continues to seek to find a diagnosis for the intermittent arm heaviness that she has been experiencing.
2. Missions Prayer Request for the Week: Cheryl Erb – Engaging with Disabilities – Please pray for Cheryl and the entire Engaging with Disabilities ministry team as they seek to follow up on connections made with churches and church leaders at last week's General Assembly.
3. Please continue to be in prayer for those in our congregation who have on-going health concerns: Evelyn King; Maisie Manning's daughter, Yvonne; Betty Jo Norris; Robert Willis (Rick's brother), Mark & Betty Werner's son-in-law, Tim's, sister (Sarah), & Ken Wilson.
4. Please be in prayer for Aisquith members, family members, and friends of the Aisquith Community who are currently struggling with various illnesses and other physical and emotional issues.

Weekly Calendar

TODAY: 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service

NEXT Sunday 10:30 AM Lord's Day Worship Service with The Lord's Supper

Coming Soon

Saturday, July 25 – 5 PM – Movie & Fellowship Evening – *David*

Church Officers

Ruling Elders: Riley B. Franklin, Jeff Soule & Mark Werner (Clerk)

Deacons: Andrew Bell, Gus DeFord, Jonathan Frank, Ken Schumann (President), and Rick Willis

Women's Care Ministry: Christine Clark, Debbie DeFord, Judi Mason, Fran Oswinkle, & Jeanne Williams (Moderator)

Sermon Notes

Date: June 28, 2026

Text: Mark 3:1-6

Sermon Title: "Opposition to His Mercy"

Delivered By: Pastor Robert Bell

This is another illustration of the truth that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. The high point of this incident lies less in the act of healing than in the conflict between Jesus and his adversaries. The climax then is that they are left silent before his sovereign word.

Main Point 1: Mercy Observed: People are watching.

Main Point 2: Mercy's Opposition: Be ready for the conflict.

Main Point 3: Mercy's Opportunity: Do good.

Conclusion:

Religion is not an end in itself. God gave the law for the benefit of mankind. His intention is summed up in love for our neighbor (Mark 12:32, 33). Christ's great work is to heal us from our sin. Christ comes to sinners who realize their need. The new life he brings cannot be held in old religious traditions or old lives. If the world could see this Christ, many would find him irresistible.